DCP 253 CHANGE DECLARATION

VOTING END DATE: 15 JULY 2016

DCP 253- RETIGHTENING AND REMAKING OF WHOLE CURRENT METERING SYSTEM TERMINAL CONNECTIONS	WEIGHTED VOTING				
	DNO	**IDNO**	**SUPPLIER**	**DISTRIBUTED GENERATOR**	**GAS SUPPLIER**
CHANGE SOLUTION	Accept	Accept	Accept	n/a	n/a
IMPLEMENTATION DATE	Accept	Accept	Accept	n/a	n/a
RECOMMENDATION	***Part 1 Matters*** **Change Solution – Accept.** For the majority of the Party Categories that were eligible to vote, the sum of the Weighted Votes of the Groups in each Party Category which voted to accept the change solution was more than 50%. **Implementation Date – Accept.** For the majority of the Party Categories that were eligible to vote, the sum of the Weighted Votes of the Groups in each Party Category which voted to accept the implementation date was more than 50%.				
PART ONE / ~~PART TWO~~	**Part One** – Authority Determination Required				

PARTY	SOLUTION (A / R)	IMPLEMENTATION DATE (A / R)	WHICH DCUSA OBJECTIVE(S) IS BETTER FACILITATED?	COMMENTS
DNO PARTIES				

Electricity North West	Accept	Accept	This change proposal better facilitates DCUSA General Objective 3 as it will reduce the risk of an incident occurring and therefore improves the security and the safety of supply. As a Distributor is able to resolve the issue within a shorter timeframe without co-ordinating with a MOP this better facilitates DCUSA General Objective 1 as well as improving the customer's experience.	Electricity North West has previously negotiated and agreed this approach with suppliers through bilateral arrangements.
Northern Powergrid (North East) Ltd	Accept	Accept	The development, maintenance and operation by each of the DNO Parties and IDNO Parties of an efficient, co-ordinated, and economical Distribution System. *This change proposal enables a simple and safer means to ensure the integrity of the electrical equipment on the customer's premises. It also better ensures the safety of the relevant customer than would be the case with either no tightening of meter terminals or alternative solutions leading to unnecessary communication and delays in the retightening of meter terminals.* The efficient discharge by each of the DNO Parties and IDNO Parties of the	n/a
Northern Powergrid (Yorkshire) Plc	Accept	Accept		

			obligations imposed upon them by their Distribution Licences. *Northern Powergrid believe that the ability of the DNO/IDNO parties to retighten and if necessary remake connections to whole current Metering System terminals consequent to DNO/IDNO works upon their service equipment enables the DNO to operate more safely when conducting its duties to maintain its connection under the Electricity Act (a prime Licence Obligation) and peripheral Electricity Safety, Quality and Continuity Regulations and the Electricity At Work Regulations as issued pursuant to the Health and Safety at Work Act.*	
SP Distribution	Accept	Accept	n/a	n/a
SP Manweb	Accept	Accept		
Southern Electric Power Distribution plc	Accept	Accept	**General Objective 1** We reiterate our view, as put forward in the consultation process, that this CP better facilitates General Objective 1, as, for relevant situations, it would ensure that:	n/a
Scottish Hydro Electric Power Distribution plc	Accept	Accept		

			• customers are left with installations which are safe, so far as is reasonably practicable (of paramount importance and in any event required by the ESQCR); • customers are not inconvenienced more than is necessary as a result of supply de-energisations, providing the least disruptive customer experience; and • work is undertaken in the most efficient, co-ordinated and economic fashion overall – eliminating the need to send multiple parties to undertake a simple task.	
Eastern Power networks	Accept	Accept	Objective 1 The proposal enables a simpler, faster and safer procedural means to ensure the integrity of the electrical equipment on the customer's premises and thereby better ensures the safety of the relevant customer. Objective 3 There is no express Licence Obligation relevant to the DNO/IDNO working upon Metering Systems but we	We believe the proposal promotes a more efficient interface between network operators and suppliers and provides an appropriate solution in pursuit of safety, and an improved customer experience
London Power Networks	Accept	Accept		
South Eastern Power Networks	Accept	Accept		

			consider that there are constraints upon the duties under Electricity Act, the Electricity Safety, Quality and Continuity Regulations and the Electricity At Work Regulations *if* a more robust solution to works by the DNO/IDNO near whole current Metering Systems is not delivered.	
Western Power Distribution (East Midlands) plc	Accept	Accept	DCUSA Objectives 1 & 4 are better facilitated by this change. The Company permits the User's Agent (Meter Operators) to access and work on Company equipment (i.e. MOCOPA) in order to facilitate the carrying out of their work on metering systems and to increase the efficiency of such activities. This Change Proposal will provide comparable access and efficiencies for the Company carrying out work on its distribution system.	Whilst WPD has indicated its acceptance of the proposed solution we believe that the following amendments are required prior to implementation: 1. The term "Electric Plant" has been used in Clause 25.23 however "Electrical Plant" should have been used (see Definitions). 2. The legal text only permits the Company to work on the meter and its terminals, and this is far too restrictive. It is sometimes necessary for work to be carried out on other equipment associated with the metering system (e.g. time-switches, radio tele-switches, connector blocks, isolators, etc). For example, the Company sometimes has to replace rotten or damaged meter boards, which requires all equipment mounted on the old board to be removed and remounted on the new one. The
Western Power Distribution (South Wales) plc	Accept	Accept		
Western Power Distribution (South West) plc	Accept	Accept		
Western Power Distribution (West Midlands) plc	Accept	Accept		

				legal text should be modified so that work on this auxiliary equipment is also permitted. 3. The last sentence of Clause 25.23 includes the phrase "that may have occurred unintentionally". WPD's view is that this phrase should be deleted as disturbance of the connections may be intentional. For example, in the event of replacing the cut-out the existing connections to the meter may not be long enough, and the most pragmatic approach is often to replace these connections rather than extend them. The legal text appears to only permit the meter terminals to be accessed in the event of carrying out work on the distribution network. The Company often get asked to carry out work on the customer / building network operator side of the metering system, and in order to do this it is necessary to access the meter terminals in order to remedy any disturbance to these connections (for example, the installation of a two / four pole isolator on the customer's meter tails). The legal text should be modified so that access to meter terminals is permitted for work being

				undertaken “downstream” of the metering system.

IDNO PARTIES				
ESPE	Accept	Accept	ESPE agree with the Working Group’s assessment that DCUSA General Objectives 1 and 3 are better facilitated by the introduction of this CP.	N/A

SUPPLIER PARTIES				
British Gas	Accept	Accept	We agree that DCUSA General Objective 1 and 3 are better facilitated by DCP 253. We agree that the ability of the DNO/IDNO parties to retighten and if necessary remake connections to whole current Metering System terminals consequent to DNO/IDNO works upon their service equipment enables a simpler, faster and safer procedural means to ensure the integrity of the electrical equipment on the customer’s premises. It also better ensures the safety of the relevant customer than would be the case with either no tightening of meter terminals or alternative solutions leading to	n/a

			complex communication sequences and delays between DNO/IDNO works and Supply retightening of meter terminals. We also agree that the ability of the DNO/IDNO parties to retighten and if necessary remake connections to whole current Metering System terminals consequent to DNO/IDNO works upon their service equipment enables the DNO to operate more safely when conducting its duties to maintain its connection under the Electricity Act (a prime Licence Obligation) and peripheral Electricity Safety, Quality and Continuity Regulations and the Electricity At Work Regulations as issued pursuant to the Health and Safety at Work Act. With the DNO/IDNO otherwise constrained from working upon whole current Metering System terminals, we agree that Suppliers and DNO/IDNO parties are and would be at elevated risk from untightened meter terminals following DNO/IDNO works in which it is in the interests of both Supply and Distribution licence holders to agree to progress this proposal.	

RWE npower	Accept	Accept	n/a	This is a positive change for us, ensuring the tightness of the terminations on our assets if any work is conducted by the DNO that may potentially disturb them.
Scottish Power Energy Retail Limited	Accept	Accept	Support the WG view - DCUSA General Objective One and three.	n/a

SSE Metering LTD	Accept	Accept	We prefer **DCUSA General Objective 1 & 3** The primary focus for us in these situations is the management of safety and delivering a high level of customer service, including cost control. **Safety** - It is imperative that the tightness of all conductor terminations that may have been affected by work to maintain or replace the service termination equipment is checked. In our opinion this must always be carried out prior to re-energisation of the supply. Failure to undertake these checks may result in an increased fire risk. **Customer Service** - All work we undertake should seek to minimise any impact upon the customer affected. Leaving customers off supply whilst they wait for a second visit by a Suppliers agent to attend and re-energise is not a credible solution. All unnecessary delays to re-energisation of the supply will have the potential to impact on our ongoing and future relationship with the customer affected. This is clearly the most economical and cost effective solution and minimises the impact for all industry parties.	We feel that there may be issues associated with smart meter tamper alerts. Industry processes should be developed to manage this issue. The alarms may be interpreted to demonstrate DNO activity provided some form of notification is provided by an industry flow or other medium. We also believe that DNOs should be responsible for the provision of adequate tools to access and tighten the terminals. SSE are not procuring meters that require special tools to access or tighten terminals.

DISTRIBUTED GENERATOR PARTIES				
n/a				

GAS SUPPLIER PARTIES				
n/a				